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ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 13-22 January 1998
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE SIXTH CONFERENCE

Report of the Asia, South-East and Pacific South-West Division

Paper submitted by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)**

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This report deals with the activities of the ongoing work programme on geographical names standardization of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) Asia, South-East and Pacific, South-West Division. It covers the period from the Division meeting, held at Wellington, New Zealand, in September 1992 through the meeting held at Beijing in May 1994 to the one held at Jakarta in June 1996.

Meetings

The 1992 Division meeting was attended by five countries. The 1994 meeting was attended by eight countries and the 1996 meeting by 11 countries.

Invitations to these meetings were sent to many of the Pacific Island countries, but unfortunately many could not attend because of insufficient funds. Country reports and various papers are presented at the meetings and projects were discussed.

Review of projects

1:10,500,000-Scale Divisional Place Names Map

A new map published by New Zealand was presented at the 1996 meeting. Australia has agreed to convert the map to a digital version.

Gazetteers

The second edition of the Concise Gazetteer and the first edition of the Regional Gazetteer are still to be completed.

Toponymic training

A toponymy training course was planned by Australia to be held in the Northern Territory in mid 1997. Due to insufficient numbers this course unfortunately had to be cancelled. It is hoped to reschedule the course in a more central part of the Division during 1998.

World Wide Web site

An Internet site has been planned.

Conclusion

It is hoped to involve more of the Pacific Island countries in future activities of the Division.